

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this Application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A patch for controlled topical or transdermal delivery of effective levels of cosmetic, dermatological, or pharmaceutical active ingredients onto the skin, hair follicles, or sebaceous glands consisting of a single polymeric matrix layer formed of a bioadhesive water-soluble film-forming polymer wherein said patch is configured as a film for application onto the skin, said patch being substantially water-free, wherein said polymeric matrix layer patch becomes tacky after wetting and the adhesive property of the tacky patch adheres the patch to the skin and wherein said polymeric matrix layer dissolves into water or disintegrates upon rinsing said patch with water;

~~wherein~~ the water-soluble film-forming polymer comprises one or more materials selected from the group consisting of polyvinyl alcohol, polyvinyl pyrrolidone, starch, hydroxypropyl cellulose, and a combination thereof, wherein one or more of said cosmetic, dermatological, or pharmaceutical active ingredients is encapsulated in nanospheres or microspheres dispersed in said polymeric matrix layer, said nanospheres or microspheres are formed of a hydrophobic material.

2. (Canceled).

3. (Canceled).

4. (Canceled).

5. (Canceled).

6. (Canceled).

7. (Previously presented) The patch according to claim 1 further comprising one or more anti-septic agents selected from the group consisting of triclosan povidone, iodine, resorcinol, phenoxy isopropanol and chlorhexidine.

8. (Previously presented) The patch according to claim 1 further comprising one or more anti-microbial agents selected from the group consisting of erythromycin, tetracycline, cephalosporin and clindamycin.

9. (Original) The patch according to claim 1 further comprising a keratolytic agent of salicylic acid.

10. (Original) The patch according to claim 1 further comprising one or more topical antiseptic selected from the group consisting of iodine, mercury, silver, phenol, and nitrofurazone and combinations thereof.

11. (Original) The patch according to claim 1 further comprising an anti-inflammatory agent chosen from the group consisting of aspirin and ibuprofen

12. (Original) The patch according to claim 1 further comprising an anti-irritant composition selected from the group consisting of an antihistamine and calamine.

13. (Original) The patch according to claim 1 further comprising a counter-irritant composition selected from the group consisting of capsaicin, menthol, and clove oil.

14. (Original) The patch according to claim 1 further comprising a moisturizer.

15. (Original) The patch according to claim 14 further comprising one or more moisturizers selected from the group consisting of aloe, lanolin, glycerin, mineral oil, and combinations thereof.

16. (Currently amended) The patch according to claim 5 wherein one or more of said cosmetic, dermatological, or pharmaceutical active ingredients is encapsulated in nanospheres or microspheres dispersed in said polymeric matrix layer, said nanospheres or microspheres are formed of a hydrophobic material.

17. (Original) The patch of claim 1 further comprising a permeation enhancer.

18. (Original) The patch of claim 1 further comprising one or more of said pharmaceutical active ingredients selected from the group consisting of an anti-inflammatory analgesic agent, a steroidal anti-inflammatory agent, an antihistamine, a local anesthetic, a bactericide, a disinfectant, a vasoconstrictor, a hemostatic, a chemotherapeutic drug, an antibiotic, a keratolytic, a cauterizing agent, an antiviral drug, and a combination thereof.

19. (Previously presented) The patch according to claim 1 wherein said polymeric matrix layer is transparent.

20. (Previously presented) The patch according to claim 1 wherein said polymeric matrix layer has a color.

21. (Previously presented) A patch according to claim 1 further comprising a solubilizer selected from the group consisting of glycerol, propylene glycol, polyalcohols, and sorbitol.

22. (Original) The patch of claim 1 further comprising an anti-aging active agent.

23. (Original) The patch of claim 1 further comprising a depigmentation active agent.

24. (Original) The patch of claim 1 further comprising an anti-acne agent.

25. (Original) The patch of claim 1 further comprising a tanning agent of dihydroxyacetone.

26. (Original) The patch according to claim 1 further comprising an effervescent agent selected from the group consisting of sodium bicarbonate and sodium carbonate.

27. (Previously presented) A patch according to claim 1 further comprising at least one active ingredient having an effect on the skin from the group consisting of anti-oxidants, moisturizers, depigmenting agents, liporegulators, anti-acne agents, anti-aging agents, softeners, anti-wrinkle agents, keratolytic agents, anti-inflammatory agents, fresheners, healing agents, vascular protectors, antibacterial agents, antifungal agents, antiperspirants, deodorants, skin conditioners, anesthetics, immunomodulators and nourishing agents, moisture absorbers, and sebum absorbers.

28. (Original) The patch according to claim 1 having a size in the range of about 1 cm² to about 30 cm², and a shape to match the shape of a region to be treated.

29. (Original) The patch according to claim 1 wherein the polymeric matrix layer has a thickness from about 0.0001 mm to about 1.0 mm.

30. (Currently amended) A method for treating the skin comprising the step of:
applying to a surface of the skin to be treated the patch according to claim 1 by moistening said skin and delivering said one or more cosmetic, dermatological, or pharmaceutical active agent to said skin.

31. (Currently amended) The method of claim 30 further comprising the steps of:
~~moistening a surface of the skin before the step of applying the patch; and~~
rinsing said skin with water for dissolving or disintegrating said polymer matrix layer and removing the patch.

32. (Previously presented) The method of claim 30 wherein said patch further comprises at least one active ingredient having an effect on the skin from the group consisting of anti-oxidants, moisturizers, depigmenting agents, liporegulators, anti-acne agents, anti-aging agents, softeners, anti-wrinkle agents, keratolytic agents, anti-inflammatory agents, fresheners, healing agents, vascular protectors, antibacterial agents, antifungal agents, antiperspirants, deodorants, skin conditioners, anesthetics, immunomodulators and nourishing agents, moisture absorbers, and sebum absorbers.

33. (Currently amended) A method for adhering a patch onto the skin and removing a patch therefrom, comprising the steps of:

wetting an area of said skin;

affixing the patch to the skin, said patch comprising a water soluble polymeric matrix layer and being substantially water-free,

delivering said one or more cosmetic, dermatological, or pharmaceutical active agent to said skin; and

rinsing said patch with water for removal of said patch, said water soluble polymeric matrix layer becoming tacky upon wetting and becoming adherent to said skin without the use of an adhesive and said patch dissolving in water or disintegrating upon rinsing said patch with water, wherein the water soluble polymeric matrix layer comprises one or more materials selected from the group consisting of a carbohydrate, maltodextrin, polyvinyl alcohol, polyvinyl pyrrolidone, and a combination thereof wherein one or more of said cosmetic, dermatological, or pharmaceutical active ingredients is encapsulated in nanospheres or microspheres dispersed in said polymeric matrix layer, said nanospheres or microspheres are formed of a hydrophobic material.

34. (Canceled).

35. (Currently amended) A method of using a patch comprising the steps of:

applying a patch to the skin, for a period of application in a range of about one minute to about 12 hours, wherein said patch is configured as a film for application onto the skin, said patch comprising a water soluble polymeric matrix layer and being substantially water-free wherein one or more of said cosmetic, dermatological, or pharmaceutical active ingredients is

encapsulated in nanospheres or microspheres dispersed in said polymeric matrix layer, said nanospheres or microspheres are formed of a hydrophobic material, said water soluble polymeric matrix layer becoming tacky upon wetting and becoming adherent to said skin without the use of an adhesive delivering said one or more cosmetic, dermatological, or pharmaceutical active agent to said skin, and

removing said patch from the skin upon rinsing said patch with water wherein said patch dissolves into water or disintegrates.

36. (Original) The method of claim 35 wherein said patch further comprises one or more of said pharmaceutical active ingredients selected from the group consisting of an anti-inflammatory analgesic agent, a steroidal anti-inflammatory agent, an antihistamine, a local anesthetic, a bactericide, a disinfectant, a vasoconstrictor, a hemostatic, a chemotherapeutic drug, an antibiotic, a keratolytic, a cauterizing agent, an antiviral drug, and a combination thereof.

37. (Canceled).

38. (Canceled).

39. (Canceled).

40. (Canceled).

41. (Currently amended) The patch of claim ~~39~~35 wherein said microspheres or nanospheres are homogeneously dispersed in said polymeric matrix layer.

42. (Currently amended) A patch for controlled topical or transdermal delivery of effective levels of cosmetic, dermatological, or pharmaceutical active ingredients onto the skin, hair follicles, or sebaceous glands consisting of a polymeric water-soluble matrix layer which comprises one or more materials selected from the group consisting of starch, polyvinyl alcohol, polyvinyl pyrrolidone, and a combination thereof and one or more of said cosmetic, dermatological, and pharmaceutical active ingredients uniformly encapsulated in nanospheres or microspheres distributed throughout the polymeric water-soluble matrix layer and being substantially water-free wherein one or more of said cosmetic, dermatological, or pharmaceutical active ingredients is encapsulated in nanospheres or microspheres dispersed in said polymeric matrix layer, said nanospheres or microspheres are formed of a hydrophobic material;

said patch being configured as a film for application to the skin, said polymer matrix layer becoming tacky upon wetting and becoming adherent to said skin without the use of an adhesive and said patch dissolving into water or disintegrating upon rinsing said patch with water.

43. (Canceled).

44. (Canceled).

45. (Canceled).

46. (Canceled).

47. (Previously presented) The patch according to claim 1 wherein said cosmetic, dermatological, or pharmaceutical active ingredients are selected from the group consisting of peptide and polypeptide.

48. (Currently amended) A method of using a patch comprising the steps of:
wetting the skin or the patch,

applying the patch to the skin, wherein the patch is configured as a film for application onto the skin, wherein the patch comprises a bioadhesive water soluble polymeric matrix layer containing an active ingredient ~~and~~ and being substantially water-free wherein one or more of said cosmetic, dermatological, or pharmaceutical active ingredients is encapsulated in nanospheres or microspheres dispersed in said polymeric matrix layer, said nanospheres or microspheres are formed of a hydrophobic material, said patch becomes tacky when wetted, and wherein the adhesive property of the tacky patch adheres the patch to the skin delivering said one or more cosmetic, dermatological, or pharmaceutical active agent to said skin, and

removing the patch by rinsing the patch with water, wherein the patch dissolves into water or disintegrates.

49. (Previously presented) The method of claim 48 wherein the period of application is in a range of about one minute to about 12 hours.